

**From:** NC Policy Watch [info@ncpolicywatch.com]  
**Sent:** 12/8/2017 11:04:15 AM  
**To:** Stallard, Lorea A [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=742fa809a86c430383d6707ebab07599-lastallard]  
**Subject:** [External] News and Updates from NC Policy Watch

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless verified. Send all suspicious email as an attachment to report.spam@nc.gov.

# NC POLICY WATCH

Stories & voices  
that **matter**.

## Pressure mounts on NC's largest pork producer to clean up its act

By [Lisa Sorg](#)

Frenches Creek Finishing lies in the watery lowlands of Bladen County, near Lion Swamp, Conkill and Briary bays, and a chain of canals that drain toward the Cape Fear River and the sea.

Owned by Murphy-Brown, the farm, which includes a nursery, can house more than 17,000 hogs, including the newly weaned and those ready for slaughter. It is also one of 11 industrialized swine farms named in a 2006 federal consent decree because their operations threaten the quality of the groundwater.

However, for nearly four years, Murphy-Brown has stonewalled an independent consultant's court-approved visits to the farms. As established by the consent decree, the visits were intended to further assess each site's conditions and waste lagoons to determine if an environmental clean up was necessary. The consultant, though, could enter the property only with Murphy-Brown's written permission.

Murphy-Brown has argued that the on-site inspections and potential clean up plans are premature — an objection US District Court Judge Malcolm Howard in this week's ruling, called "unfounded."

Now the world's largest pork producer must allow the consultant, S&ME of Spartanburg, SC, to continue its long overdue work: gathering more data from the farms and if warranted, prescribing a "corrective action plan" that would specify methods of effecting a clean up.

"It's an important step forward," said Geoff Gisler, an attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center. The SELC represented the plaintiffs, including the Waterkeeper Alliance, in the case. "The consultants need to go on site and determine what's there and how to fix it."

Dale Mullen, an attorney with McGuireWoods representing Murphy-Brown, countered that S&ME based its conclusions on old and outdated information, adding, "media reports that pollution was found on the farms were just wrong."

[\[Read more...\]](#)

## Progressive Pulse Blog:

- [Burr and Tillis wage class warfare on behalf of the 1%](#)

- [Property rights crusaders nowhere to be found in Atlantic Coast Pipeline controversy](#)
- [Tensions brewing as State Board of Education, Superintendent Mark Johnson clash again over DPI budget cuts](#)
- [Growing the deficit will lead to immediate cuts to core programs in our communities](#)
- [U.S. House passes first major gun bill since Las Vegas... and it makes things worse](#)
- [NC DEQ delays decision on Atlantic Coast Pipeline air permit, requests more info on toxic pollutants](#)

#### Daily Radio Commentary:

- [Duke should pay for mountainous coal ash problem, not NC consumers](#)

#### Daily News:

- **Congress averts shutdown, sends Trump stopgap spending bill**  
[APnews.com](#)
- **Combative Franken quits, points to GOP tolerance of Trump**  
[APnews.com](#)
- **Sen. Al Franken to resign amid accusations of sexual misconduct**  
[Raleigh News & Observer](#)
- **Democrats move quickly, GOP moves slowly on sexual harassment allegations**  
[Raleigh News & Observer](#)
- **Conservative Arizona Rep. Trent Franks resigning**  
[Raleigh News & Observer](#)
- **NC Sen. Thom Tillis on Roy Moore: we need an ethics probe**  
[Raleigh News & Observer](#)
- **Atlantic Coast Pipeline sues landowners**  
[The Fayetteville Observer](#)
- **After cyberattack, much of county's business done on paper**  
[WRAL.com](#)
- **Supercharger or super wealth-shifter? Few promises for wage growth as tax bills advance**  
[WRAL.com](#)
- **Thousands of NC students aren't vaccinated – all because of this easy exemption**  
[Raleigh News & Observer](#)
- **Wake County bucks North Carolina's homelessness trend**  
[Raleigh News & Observer](#)
- **Confederate flag flies over rural firehouse despite funding threat**  
[WRAL.com](#)
- **Accrediting body lifts sanctions against North Carolina HBCU**  
[WRAL.com](#)
- **UNCG to freeze tuition for 2018-19**  
[Greensboro News & Record](#)
- **Limited GenX Data, Public Messaging At Issue**  
[Coastal Review Online](#)
- **Winston-Salem native Ed 'Buck' Joyner, longtime CIAA basketball coach, dies at 68**  
[Journalnow.com](#)

## Daily Editorials:

- **Loss of CHIP funds will endanger children**  
[Raleigh News & Observer](#)
- **Big fish in dirty N.C. water**  
[WRAL.com](#)
- **Concealed-carry permit holders aren't our problem**  
[The Fayetteville Observer](#)
- **As deadline nears, N.C. congressional delegation should demand Obamacare signup extension**  
[WRAL.com](#)
- **Susan Ladd: Rep. Mark Walker's hypocrisy on cutting the deficit**  
[Greensboro.com](#)

Our work is supported by readers like you.

[Help us to continue expanding](#) our aggressive reporting and thoughtful commentaries. [Make a tax-deductible financial contribution today!](#)

**Donate**

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: *To get regular updates from NC Policy Watch, you can now follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).*

Join the policy debate at [The Progressive Pulse blog](#).

[NC Policy Watch](#) is a project of [the North Carolina Justice Center](#).  
© 2016 NC Policy Watch | 224 S. Dawson Street, Raleigh, NC 27601

You are receiving this email because you signed up online or at an in-person event with NC Policy Watch or the NC Justice Center. You may also be receiving this email because you registered to attend one of our events. To stop receiving this email, simply [click here to unsubscribe](#) or [here to manage your subscription](#).

empowered by  salsa